

Nome Community Forum: Themes and Issues Raised December 16, 2015

Concern that refinancing HCBS in Alaska will ultimately mean a smaller program as the state allocates fewer dollars to these programs.

Question about whether chronic substance abuse and alcoholism would be included under SMI category.

Issues around escort for medical appointments came up – question about how Medicaid determines who gets it.

Concern that looking at how other states have implemented (i) and (k) may not be helpful given the unique features of Alaska.

Concern that the Development and Implementation Council does not adequately represent the perspectives of Alaska Natives.

Concern that there is not sufficient engagement of the community; one visit to each community early in the development process is not sufficient.

Concern that there is a housing crisis in the area. They need funding for sober housing; there is no alcohol treatment program/center, no sober housing, no AHFC vouchers. Many people have a criminal background, which also makes it hard for them to find housing and treatment options.